company will no longer be applicable for Telecom sector as indirect foreign investment in the licensee company will also be counted towards sectoral cap of 74 percent.

In case of not adhering to licence conditions now being imposed for addressing security concerns, the licence(s) granted to the company shall be deemed as cancelled and the licensor shall have the right to encash the performance bank guarantees and the licensor shall not be liable for loss of any kind.

Sethusamudram Project

*43. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are all set to implement the Sethusamudram Project to help coastal shipping and trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of this project; and

(c) how far it would contribute to the national economy, develop the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, improve the competitiveness of exports and generate employment opportunities on its completion?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) by name and style 'Sethusamudram Corporation Limited' (SCL) has already been incorporated to raise finance and to undertake such other activities as may be necessary to facilitate creation and operation of a navigable channel from Gulf of Manner to Bay of Bengal through Palk Bay. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the project is ready. The environment clearance for the project has been applied for, which is yet to be received. The project is being processed for obtaining approval of the competent authority.

(c) On its completion, Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project (SSCP) will provide a shorter navigational route between west and east coast ports of India. This would lead to substantial savings for the shipping companies, exporters and importers, manufacturers and traders with reduction in transportation cost and thus making India's foreign trade more competitive globally. The SSCP would also benefit coastal movement of domestic

cargo leading to increased employment generation in the ports and industries situated in their hinterland. The creation of the channel would enable development of existing and new ports on the coastline adjacent to project areas thereby spurring overall industrial development in the region.

Prior intimation of Tsunami

*44. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any prior intimation of Tsunami from any Government or international agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are now considering to bring any technology for getting prior intimation of Tsunami and other natural disasters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

Statement

(a) and (b) No. Sir. We had not received any prior intimation of Tsunami from any Government or international agency.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to set up a multiple hazard monitoring and warning system covering Tsunami, Storm Surges and Cyclones in the Indian Ocean. The envisaged warning system includes, setting up of a dedicated network of seismic station for earthquake/ tsunami monitoring, deployment of pressure sensors, digital tide gauges, Data buoys, radars and ocean current meters for forecasting of the movement of Tsunami, cyclones and ocean surges, modeling of inundation scenarios for the entire Indian coast, bathymetry surveys and establishment of a centre for collection of the information, analysis and dissemination of warnings. Department of Science and Technology, Department of Ocean Development, Department of Space and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research will be the major participating agencies in this endeavour.